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500.37453CX2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): A. DATE, et al

Serial No.: 10/047,102

Filed: January 17, 2002

For: STORAGE MEDIUM, RECORDING APPARATUS, PLAYBACK APPARATUS, RECORDING METHOD, AND COMPUTER-READABLE STORAGE MEDIUM

Group: 2615

Examiner:

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JUN 12 2003

Technology Center 2600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 11, 2003

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 4 as follows:

1. (amended) A method for playing back a storage medium storing still picture group management information for managing still picture data and N still picture data as a still picture group, where N is an integer number equal to or larger than one, wherein said still picture group management information includes a first recording time at which the still picture data in said still picture group was recorded first and a last recording time at which the still picture data in said still picture group was recorded last, said method comprising the steps of:

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